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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/AU99/00872 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 12 October 1999 (12.10.99) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> PP 6464 12 October 1998 (12.10.98) AU <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY [AU/AU]; Acton, ACT 2601 (AU). <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> <u>COX</u> , Graeme [AU/AU]; 66 Bundle Hill Road, Bawley Point, NSW 2539 (AU). <u>EWART</u> , Gary [AU/AU]; 189 Phillip Avenue, Hackett, ACT 2602 (AU). <u>GAGE</u> , Peter [AU/AU]; 130 Powell Drive, Queanbeyan, NSW 2620 (AU). <b>(74) Agents:</b> SLATTERY, John, M. et al.; Davies Collison Cave, 1 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> With international search report.
<b>(54) Title:</b> A METHOD OF MODULATING ION CHANNEL FUNCTIONAL ACTIVITY		
<b>(57) Abstract</b>  The present invention relates generally to a method of retarding, reducing or otherwise inhibiting viral functional activity and, more particularly, to a method of reducing, retarding or otherwise inhibiting viral functional activity by down-regulating Vpu ion channel functional activity. Even more particularly, the present invention provides a method of treating HIV infection or AIDS by inhibiting Vpu ion channel mediated HIV replication.		